

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 NRC-05 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /088 W

----- 024281

O R 251842Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4643

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 19212

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III: FRG REACTION TO US
INITIATIVES

REFS: (A) STATE 277369 DTG 222117Z NOV 75

(B) STATE 276242 DTG 211957Z NOV 75

1. WE MET WITH RUTH ON NOVEMBER 25 TO DISCUSS THE
US INITIATIVES CONTAINED REFTELS. RUTH SAID THE FRG
WELCOMED THE US COMPROMISE TEXTS.

2. NON-US ALLIED EQUIPMENT REDUCTIONS. RUTH SAID THE
FRG WAS PLEASED TO ACCEPT PARA 3 OF THE GUIDANCE AND
PARA 3BIS OF THE POSITION PAPER AS CONTAINED PARA 5
REF A. RUTH SAID THE FRG WILL SUPPORT THIS LANGUAGE
IN BRUSSELS. HOWEVER, TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF
COLLUSION BY THE US-UK-FRG, THE FRG REP WILL ASK FOR
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BRACKETS AROUND THE TEXT.

RUTH EXPRESSED THE APPRECIATION OF THE FRG FOR THE US WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THE FRG LEAD-IN TO PARA 10 OF THE GUIDANCE (PARA 7, REF A).

3. USE OF POSITION PAPER FOR FURTHER GUIDANCE. RUTH POINTED OUT TO US THAT THE SPC HAD AGREED ON NOVEMBER 24 TO AN INSERT IN PARA 1 OF THE POSITION PAPER. ACCORDING TO RUTH, THE INSERT READS AS FOLLOWS:

"SHOULD FURTHER GUIDANCE BE NEEDED, THE COUNCIL WOULD DRAW ON THESE AGREEMENTS".

RUTH SAID THE FRG FOUND THIS INSERT EXTREMELY HELPFUL, SINCE THE FRG HAD PLANNED TO INTRODUCE COMPARABLE LANGUAGE ITSELF. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE NOTED THAT THE FOOTNOTE (PARA 6, REF A) IS NO LONGER NEEDED, ASSUMING THAT THE INSERT IN PARA 1 IS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL THE ALLIES.

4. COLLECTIVE REDUCTION COMMITMENTS. THE FRG WELCOMES THE US MOVE TOWARD ACCEPTING THE FRG LANGUAGE ON THIS POINT. ACCORDINGLY, THE FRG WILL BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT BOTH INSERTS, I.E., "TO THE EAST", "ON NON-US ALLIED FORCES", PROPOSED BY THE US (PARA 8, REF A).

REGARDING THE DELETION OF THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE FRG-SUGGESTED FOOTNOTE, RUTH SAID THE FRG SHARED THE BELGIAN AND DUTCH RESERVATIONS ON THE TWO ADDITIONAL SENTENCES PROPOSED AT THE SPC TO REPLACE THE DELETED SENTENCE. RUTH WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE FRG WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE TWO NEW SENTENCES IF THE US COULD ACCEPT INSERTION OF THE WORD "COLLECTIVELY" IN THE SECOND SENTENCE. THE SENTENCE WOULD THEN READ AS FOLLOWS:

"THIS DOES NOT AFFECT THE WEST'S WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE A COMMITMENT IN CONNECTION WITH A PHASE I AGREEMENT THAT ALL WESTERN DIRECT
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PARTICIPANTS WOULD COLLECTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN PHASE II REDUCTIONS TO A COMMON CEILING".

IF THE US CANNOT ACCEPT "COLLECTIVELY", THE FRG WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE THE TWO ADDITIONAL SENTENCES BECAUSE IT MIGHT GIVE A WRONG SIGNAL TO THE OTHER SIDE.

IN THIS CASE, SOME SOLUTION MAY HAVE TO BE FOUND

WHICH WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT US ARGUMENTS THAT, FROM A TACTICAL NEGOTIATING STANDPOINT, IT IS BEST TO AVOID DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT OF COLLECTIVE REDUCTION COMMITMENTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME MAKING CLEAR THE ALLIANCE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE IN THE POSITION PAPER.

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----- 024259

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5. RECIPROCAL LIMITS. RUTH SAID THAT HE WILL INFORM HIS SUPERIORS (PRESUMABLY VAN WELL) ABOUT THE US APPROACH ON RECIPROCAL LIMITS (REF B). RUTH SAID THE US PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE AT THE WORKING LEVEL AND HE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE ANY OBJECTIONS FROM HIGHER UP. SHOULD AN UNANTICIPATED OBJECTION ARISE, RUTH SAID HE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH US IMMEDIATELY.

6. RUTH POINTED OUT TO US THAT PARA 7, REF B CONTAINED THE PHRASE THAT "ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR CAPITALS BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH DISCUSSIONS ON LIMITATIONS ALONG THE LINES OF REVISED PARAS 6, 7, 8 AND 9 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE". RUTH WONDERED WHY THE US HAD SELECTED SUCH A PROCEDURE. RUTH'S FEELING IS THAT IT SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE

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AHG TO DECIDE WHETHER NEW INSTRUCTIONS ARE REQUIRED AFTER THE PAUSE BETWEEN DISCUSSION OF REDUCTIONS AND DETAILED DISCUSSION OF ANY LIMITATIONS. SHOULD THE NAC HAVE TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS IT WOULD PERFORCE BE FROM CAPITALS. RUTH SUGGESTED THE US MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER DELETING THE PHRASE "AND AFTER RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS" WHICH APPEARS IN PARA 6 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE (PARA 8, REF B).

7. THE ONLY OTHER SUGGESTION RUTH MADE ON THE DRAFT GUIDANCE CONCERNED PARA 5 (PARA 8, REF B). IN THE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE, RUTH SAID THE FRG WOULD PREFER THAT THE WORDS "THOSE ELEMENTS" BE REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING:

"THE US ELEMENTS SPECIFIED IN THE OFFER".

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE RE FRG PROPOSALS IN PARAS 4, 6 AND 7 ABOVE.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY POLICIES, OPTION III, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN19212
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750410-0670
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751113/aaaaakvx.tel
Line Count: 202
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 277369
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: OPTION III: FRG REACTION TO US INITIATIVES
TAGS: PARM, GE, US, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006